GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1700
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2004
LOAN TO FARMERS
Rawale Shri Mohan

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a)whether Punjab National Bank and Bank of Baroda have introduced special incentive schemes for extending; loan to farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the target set for the purpose;

(c) the steps taken to achieve the target;

(d) whether any other commercial bank has taken similar initiatives; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S.PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) to (e)The Punjab National Bank (PNB) has reported that it has taken several measures for extending loans to farmers. These measures includes:

i) PNB Krishi Card Scheme;

ii) PNB Kisan Sampurna Yojana;

iii) Scheme for providing relief package to farmers;

iv) Relaxation in margin and security norms;

v) Tie-up with Tractor Manufacturers to obtain documents for faramers;

vi) Kisan Gioshthies;
vii) Village Adoption Scheme;
viii) Farmers Training Centres; and
ix) Krishak Protsahan Yojana.

Consequent on the announcement made by the Government on 18th June, 2004 to double the flow of credit to agriculture and allied activities in the next three years and to achieve growth of 30 per cent in credit disbursement during the current financial year, the Bank has intensified its programme on agriculture lending to achieve 30 per cent growth over the previous year`s disbursement. The Bank has also set a target to add 100 new farmers per rural/semi urban branch during the year 2004-05. By and large similar measures are being taken by other Public Sector Banks including Bank of Baroda to achieve the target of 30 per cent growth in credit disbursement to agriculture during the year 2004-05.